

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 02714 301955Z

63

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 IO-13 ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 PC-15

USIA-15 DODE-00 AGR-20 EB-11 IGA-02 SCI-06 L-03 RSR-01

RSC-01 /145 W

----- 099654

R 301645Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6257

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 2714

AFDROUGHT

.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, TPHY, WMO, NG

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON WEATHER MODIFICATION

REF: NIAMEY 2696

1. FOREIGN MINISTER SABO CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE EVENING AUG 29 AND SAID HE HAD JUST COME FROM MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR CABINET MAITOURARE. HE SAID PRESIDENT WAS ENCOURAGED BY BOLLAY'S CONFIRMATION THAT NIGER'S CLOUDS THEORETICALLY SEEDABLE AND WAS PLEASED THAT BOLLAY HAD AGREED HELP GON ENGAGE US WEATHER MODIFICATION FIRM AND WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT PLANES COULD BE IN COUNTRY BY SEPT 10. SABO ADDED THAT PRESIDENT HOWEVER WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT USG WAS APPARENTLY NOT PREPARED TO DO MORE ON ITS OWN THAN MERELY SEND OUT AN EXPERT TO MAKE STUDY. SABO CONTINUED BY REMINDING ME PRESIDENT HAD ASKED IN MID JULY (FOR THIRD YEAR IN ROW) FOR ASSISTANCE IN MAKING RAIN DURING PERIOD LATE AUGUST THROUGH SEPTEMBER. WHILE PRESIDENT KNEW PRELIMINARY STUDY WAS REQUIRED HE EXPECTED USG TO HAVE MADE ALL PREPARATIONS NECESSARY TO ACT THIS YEAR ONCE STUDY CONFIRMED PRESENCE PROPER CLOUD FORMATIONS AND NECESSARY COORDINATION WORKED OUT WITH NEIGHBORING STATES. HE THEN SHOWED ME RECORD OF RAINFALL IN KEY CROP AREAS FOR PERIOD AUG 12-25 AND SAID STAZISTICS SO FAR CONFIRM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NIAMEY 02714 301955Z

GON'S FEARS EXPRESSED EARLIER TO USG (NIAMEY 2289 AND 2231) THAT RAINS WOULD DIMINISH PREMATURELY AND CAUSE ANOTHER POOR HARVEST.

HE MADE POINT THAT AT MOMENT WHEN PLANES NEEDED IN COUNTRY FOR SEEDING OPERATIONS TO SAVE CROP, USG WAS PREPARED ONLY TO STUDY SITUATION FURTHER BEFORE REACHING CONSLUSION ALTHOUGH BOLLAY'S FINDINGS WERE MOST FAVORABLE. HE ADDED GON WAS DISAPPOINTED BUT NOT SURPRISED SINCE IT WAS EVIDENT FROM USG ATTEMPTS PLACE BOLLAY UNDER WMO AUSPICES THAT USG BASICALLY UNWILLING UNDERTAKE CLOUD SEEDING OPERATIONS IN NIGER THIS YEAR REGARDLESS OF WHAT BOLLAY REPORTED.

2. I MENTIONED OUR CONCERN FOR MANY LEGAL, POLITICAL AS WELL AS TECHNICAL PROBLEMS POSED BY WEATHER MODIFICATION, BUT COULD SENSE FONMIN WAS NOT CONVINCED. I TOLD HIM GON'S DECISION TO ENGAGE PRIVATE AMERICAN FIRM MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE BEST SOLUTION AFTER ALL AND I ASSURED HIM USG WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO HELP AMBASSADOR DIALLO FIND A COMPETENT ORGANIZATION.

3. BEFORE LEAVING, I SHOWED HIM DATA FROM NOAA SATELLITE INDICATING THAT THERE WERE FOUR LARGE CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD FORMATIONS CURRENTLY OVER NIGER AND THAT COUNTRY MIGHT RECEIVE RAIN FROM SOME OR ALL (DEPTEL 171727) POSSIBLY THAT VERY NIGHT. HE SEEMED PLEASED AND MEETING ENDED ON MORE POSITIVE NOTE. P.S. THERE WERE SCATTERED SHOWERS NIGHT OF AUG 29 CENTERED IN TAHOUA AREA.
BUCHE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NIAMEY02714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973086/aaaaadth.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: NIAMEY 2696
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON WEATHER MODIFICATION
TAGS: SWEL, TPHY, NG, WMO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005